MOTORHOME WITH INCREASED INTERIOR CEILING HEIGHT

Abstract of the Disclosure

A vehicle frame with a low profile is designed to be suitable for attaching directly to an incomplete, preassembled motorized chassis to construct a motorhome. The vehicle frame includes planar bulkheads and a storage area floor that are attached to the frame and to the chassis so as to create a three-dimensional space frame that is highly resistant to bending and twisting forces as well as storage areas that extend the width of the motorhome. The motorhome with the frame mounts a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system as well as heavy holding tanks within or below the plane of the vehicle frame so as to lower the center of mass of the motorhome to thereby improve vehicle handling and safety. Placement of the HVAC system within and/or below the vehicle frame obviates the need to position HVAC components on the roof of the motorhome thereby further lowering the center of mass and eliminating a source of liquid water condensation above the living space of the motorhome. The vehicle frame attached directly to the chassis further facilitates an interior ceiling height in the motorhome of at least 7' 6" while maintaining a total vehicle height not exceeding 13' 6" as well as facilitating construction of slide-out rooms with interior heights of at least 6' 1" thereby allowing adults of above average height to stand up inside the slide-out rooms.

R:\DOCS\JWA\JWA-7354.DOC 020904